

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-34 (Canceled).

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a nuclear fuel, comprising:
producing wires, more than half of a number of the wires being wires of fissile material;
producing at least one assembly by stranding, braiding or weaving said wires together;
disposing the assembly in a ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing; and
deforming the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing with the assembly disposed therein so that the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing compresses the wires.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): The method for producing a nuclear fuel according to claim 35, wherein the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing is a tube comprising only one assembly, and the deforming includes drawing the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing through a drawplate or by rolling.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn and Currently Amended): The method for producing a nuclear fuel according to claim 35, wherein the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing is a tube comprising only one assembly, and the deforming includes deforming the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing by roller burnishing.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn and Currently Amended): The method according to claim 35, wherein the disposing is realized with the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing having a flattened shape and containing plural assemblies placed parallel with respect to one another in a uniform

manner, and the deforming is performed by pressing or rolling the ~~stainless-ductile~~ casing with the plural assemblies therein.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 35, wherein the deforming is performed so that a cross-section shape of the wires is distorted from their original cross-section shape and so that cross-sections of two adjacent wires fit together.

Claim 40 (New). The method according to claim 35, wherein the deforming is performed until gaps between the wires occupy only 3 to 15 % of an internal cross-section of the casing.

Claim 41 (New). The method according to claim 35, wherein the fissile material is selected in from a group including uranium, plutonium, americium, and alloys thereof.

Claim 42 (New). The method according to claim 41, wherein the fissile material is selected in from a group including UMo, UAl, and alloys thereof.

Claim 43 (New). The method according to claim 42, wherein the fissile material is a UMo alloy including 8 % by mass of molybdenum.

Claim 44 (New). The method according to claim 35, wherein the wires have a diameter between 10 μm and 100 μm .

Claim 45 (New). The method according to claim 35, wherein all the wires of the assembly include fissile material.

Claim 46 (New). The method according to claim 35, wherein the wires have identical diameters.

Claim 47 (New). The method according to claim 35, wherein the at least one assembly of wires is a braid.

Claim 48 (New). The method according to claim 35, wherein the at least one assembly of wires is a strand.